

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 remain pending in this application. Claims 6, 9, 10 and 13 have been amended to correct typographical errors related to their dependencies. The specification has been amended to reflect drawing changes requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings as not showing each element of Claims 3, 6, 9 and 13, specifically with respect to combining a boil-off vapor with the LNG stream. Substitute drawings have been submitted as required to address this issue, and are attached at Tab A. Marked up copies of the drawings are attached at Tab B. Each of the drawings now contains numbered element 30 to show a stream of boil-off vapor being combined with the LNG stream upstream of the high pressure pumps, as previously described on page 4, line 22 – page 5, line 2 of the specification. The specification has been amended to add the following line related to element 30: “As shown in FIGS 1-5, the system optionally allows for combining boil-off vapor with the LNG feed stream upstream of high pressure pump 2.” Applicants believe this satisfactorily addresses the Examiner’s concern and request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Rejections of the Claims

The Examiner has rejected all claims based on obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,604,380 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,311,516. Although the Applicant’s disagree with the Examiner’s conclusion of obviousness because the Examiner has not shown

any motivation to combine the references as required, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have submitted a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,604,380. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection and allow the pending claims.


Allowance of the claims and passage of the case to issue are respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe a discussion of this matter would be helpful, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at (312) 913-0001.

A terminal disclaimer fee of \$130.00 is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

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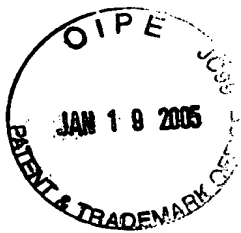


FIG.1

